Docket No.: 1046.1227 Serial No. 09/737,588

IN THE CLAIMS:

The text of all pending claims, (including withdrawn claims) is set forth below. Cancelled and not entered claims are indicated with claim number and status only. The claims as listed below show added text with <u>underlining</u> and deleted text with <u>strikethrough</u>. The status of each claim is indicated with one of (original), (currently amended), (cancelled), (withdrawn), (new), (previously presented), or (not entered).

Please claims AMEND claims 1, 2 and 5 in accordance with the following:

1. (currently amended) A processing system comprising:

a timer; and

a control unit monitoring a button for instructing an execution of an image photographing process, detecting depression of the button, starting up said timer if said button is depressed continuously for a <u>first</u> predetermined <u>period of time</u> or longer <u>after detecting the depression of the button</u>, and executing the image photographing process after said timer has counted a <u>second predetermined period of time</u>.

- 2. (currently amended) A processing system according to claim 1, wherein said control unit, if when a depressing time of said button is less than the first predetermined period of time, executes the image photographing process immediately after releasing said button from being depressed.
- 3. (original) A processing system according to claim 1, wherein said button is provided on a connectable/disconnectable image acquisition device.
- 4. (original) A processing system according to claim 1, wherein said button is an object displayed on a display device.
 - 5. (currently amended) A processing system comprising:

a module detecting a depressing time of a button instructing an execution of an image photographing process; and

a module changing an interval from a timing of releasing said button to a timing of executing the image photographing process after releasing said button from being depressed on the basis according to a length of the depressing time of said button.

6. (original) An image photographing system comprising: a button instructing an execution of an image photographing process;

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a control unit monitoring a depression of said button; and a timer,

wherein said control unit starts up said timer by setting a first count time upon detecting the depression of said button, and starts up said timer by further setting a second count time when the first count time has elapsed before the depressed button is released, and the image photographing process is executed after the second count time has elapsed.

- 7. (original) An image photographing system according to claim 6, wherein the image photographing process is executed immediately when the depressed button is released before the first count time elapses.
- 8. (original) A storage medium readable by a machine tangible embodying a program of instructions executable by the machine to perform method steps comprising: detecting a depression of a button for instructing to execute an image photographing process;

starting up a timer by setting a first count time after detecting the depression of said button:

detecting a release of said button;

starting up said timer by further setting a second count time when the first count time elapses before said depressed button is released; and

executing the image photographing process after the second count time has elapsed.

- 9. (original) A storage medium readable by a machine tangible embodying a program according to claim 8, of instructions executable by the machine, the method steps further comprising a step of executing the image photographing process immediately when said depressed button is released before the first count time elapses.
- 10. (original) A storage medium readable by a machine tangible embodying a program of instructions executable by the machine to perform method steps comprising: displaying, on a display device, a button of which a depression is detectable; detecting a depression of said button;

starting up a timer by setting a first count time after detecting the depression of said button:

detecting a release of said button;

starting up said timer by further setting a second count time when the first count time elapses before said depressed button is released; and

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executing the image photographing process after the second count time has elapsed.

11. (original) A storage medium readable by a machine tangible embodying a program according to claim 10, of instructions executable by the machine, the method steps further comprising a step of executing the image photographing process immediately when said depressed button is released before the first count time elapses.